

ENTERTAINMENT

PROFILES



YURI NIKULIN

Artist and writers, film makers and composers leave their imprint behind them in the form of their creative works which are tested to live on much longer than those who created them. Clowns, on the contrary, must be seen with one's own eyes at the moment of their creativity to understand what they are, this was once said by the noted Soviet clown, Yuri Nikulin.

For over 30 years now, audiences in many places in this country have been greeting Yuri Nikulin with uproarious laughter. A "laugh-maker" is indeed one of the oldest professions on earth. It is not unlikely that man only really began to evolve after he had learned how to laugh. To make something funny and laughable is so difficult that this trade has never really drawn large numbers to it. In the present-day circus, too, it continues to be among the most complex gears, although the circus knows so simple gears at all.

They say that clowning is always safe work in that clowns don't get physically hurt. However, most clowns would prefer to have their leg or arm broken than to leave the ring after a failed performance followed by dead silence or, which is even worse, to be accompanied by sparse, polite clapping.

The laws of laughter are strict and require, in addition to talent, a considerable effort, an effort which must result in an image of your own.

Yuri the clown who was laughed at to the point of tears in Japan, Sweden, Australia and many other countries, has many years of persistent effort behind him. Yuri the clown is a big child. A tall, rather round-shouldered man in jacket and trousers which are obviously too small for him, he is both naive and reckless. As a true child he is ready to join any funny game or pull one's leg. He is not that simple though and therefore always emerges victorious over his ludicrous and ill-wishing partner who is always ready to play a trick with his friend and becomes in fact the last to be laughed at.

Nikulin joined the circus as a mature adult, after several years at service in the front line of World War II, and he was lucky to discover that clowning was his vocation, a career he just had to follow. He was assisted in this by the teachers at the studio of clowning at Moscow's Old Circus, and by the famous Kerenchash with whom Nikulin worked for some time after he graduated from the studio.

Nikulin is no longer a clown, though he didn't part with the circus. Every morning, he enters the circus on Tsvetnoy Boulevard through the doors marked "Staff only", then goes upstairs and takes his seat at the director's office on the second floor.

The directorship at the circus is quite a busy one. Yet despite his many duties the director always finds a moment to cast a glance at the heart of the circus, his rig, where, many years ago, a young clown Yuri Nikulin started his eventful life in the circus.

TWO EXHIBITIONS

The State Museum of Oriental Art at 16 Chukotka St. in Moscow invites visitors to two exhibitions. One features works by the Chinese painter, Xu Beihong. This exhibition has been jointly organized by the museum and the Union of Friendship Societies, and by the Society for Soviet-Chinese Friendship. It displays pictures from the museum's collection and from the Hermitage Museum in Leningrad.



Xu Beihong. "The Running Horse".

The other exhibition features portraits, landscapes, and illustrations by the modern Chinese artist, Maryn Petrovsky.



Maryn Petrovsky. "A Girl With Luxuriant Hair".

At Carcassonne the Omsk choir was invited to perform on the last day of the festival on an open-air stage. There was such a huge crowd that many had to sit in the aisles.

The residents of Ajaccio in Corsica received their first taste of Soviet folk dancing. The concert was held in the main square and was a vivid manifestation of the people's friendly feelings towards the Soviet people.

The repertoire featured Russian folk songs and dances. The French were utterly delighted by our performance of their own folk songs.

MUSICAL ORBITS OF FRIENDSHIP

Soviet composers see as their responsibility the strengthening of ties with the life of the people and the expansion of creative cooperation with progressive foreign masters in the musical world. This was declared by the First Secretary of the Board of the USSR Composers Union, Tikhon Khrennikov, addressing a press conference in Moscow. It was dedicated to the two forthcoming events in Soviet artistic life — the Festival of Soviet Music in the Kirov Rhythms, and to the international symposium on music, "The Traditions and Contemporary Aspects of the Musical Cultures of the Peoples of the Near and Middle East", to be held in Samarkand in the Uzbek SSR.

It will be attended by delegates from 21 countries. Apart from the meetings at which factual reports will be made, the programme of the symposium also includes concerts of folk music.

The Ljudmila Zhivkova National Youth Theatre from Sofia has given its last performance on the stage of the Pushkin Theatre in Moscow.

This company was set up almost thirty years ago and has become one of the leading companies in Bulgaria. Interest in topical and social themes distinguishes the theatre's productions which are inseparably linked with the development of the national drama.

The theatre also widely performs the world's classics, as well as plays by Soviet playwrights.

On their last visit to Moscow, the Bulgarian actors staged two new plays: "This is a Small World" by Bulgarian playwright I. Radov and "Archangels Do Not Play Flipper" by the Italian playwright D. Fo.

In the photo: a scene from the play, "This is a Small World".

OMSK PEOPLE CHARM THE FRENCH

The consensus is that the Omsk Russian Folk Choir has spellbound devotees of music from France. Over five thousand kilometres were travelled by the choir along the French roads and 19 concerts were given which drew a total of 18,000 spectators — the results of the guest performances of the Siberians.

We travelled across southern

JAPANESE MINIATURES IN THE HERMITAGE

The Hermitage Museum has put together a display of 17th-19th-century netshakes — decorations worn at the waist by Japanese men and women of fashion — the museum has the biggest collection of them in this country.

The netshakes are essentially a charm which can hold a bunch of keys, a small box, or small boxes for perfumes and medicines worn at the waist. This

useful and ornamental accessory came into being because of the traditional pocketless Japanese dress. There were many Japanese craftsmen excelling in the art of netshakes. They used their skills in depicting scenes from urban life, heroes of historical chronicles and fairy tales as well as the Japanese flora and fauna.

The show features works by 18 netshakers, among them are miniatures made of wood and ivory, as well as such exotic materials as black coral, whalebone and rhino's horn. The Iskustvo Publishers are now working on the monograph "The Netshakes — The Miniature Sculpture of Japan" based on the present collection.

YOUNG THEATRE FROM BULGARIA



WHAT'S ON?

October 11-14

THEATRES

Kremlin Palace of Congresses (Kremlin). Bolshoi Theatre performances: 11, 13 — Verdi, "Il Trovatore" (opera). 12 — Rossini, "The Barber of Seville" (opera).

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). 11 — Dargomyzhsky, "The Stone Guest" (opera). 12 — Adam, "Giselle" (ballet). 13 — Musorgsky, "Boris Godunov" (opera). 14 — Khrennikov, "Love for Love" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 12 — Khrennikov, "Dorothea" (comic opera). 13 — Double-bill: Gubarenko, "Tenderness" (Leonavalo, "Il Pagliaccio" (opera). 14 — Tchaikovsky, "Tosca" (opera).

Opera Theatre (8 Pushkinskaya St.). 11 — Gorkovskiy, "Quadrille". 13 — Zin, "Monsieur Arlequin". 14 — Strauss, "Die Fledermaus". 15 (ball) — Puchkin, "Wedding With the General". 15 (rev) — Milyutin, "Girls to a Party".

FILMS

The Last Stop (Czechoslovakia). The life of people in a home for the aged. Cinema: "Zaryadye" (1 Moscow), "Embarkment" (1 Moscow), "Flooded Nighthawk" (1 Moscow), "Lady's Tango" (1 Moscow), "Leningrad" (1 Moscow), "Leningrad" (1 Moscow), "Leningrad" (1 Moscow).

A single woman brought up her son alone and after his marriage she made a single man like herself. Cinema: "Leningrad" (1 Moscow), "Leningrad" (1 Moscow), "Leningrad" (1 Moscow), "Leningrad" (1 Moscow), "Leningrad" (1 Moscow).

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BUSINESS

MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS

Vacuum machines, automatic and indeed all manner of equipment used in the tanning, drying and treatment of animal skins, along with their fur, along with automatic machines for processing of pelts, have been shown by experts from Belgium, Hungary, Denmark, Italy, Norway, the Soviet Union, Finland, West Germany and Japan. The exhibition was an exhibition of the subject of cage installations of animals in Riga, the Latvian capital. Among the latest developments which are being developed by Soviet specialists are automatic meat grinders and feeders for mink and foxes, and other machines used for preparing animal food. The Finnish firm of Konecranes displayed a range of conveyors, while the firm of Roberi of Belgium presented various mesh nets for fencing animal yards. Inventions from the United States exhibited a range of vaccines and medical preparations.

Fur is an important item of exports from the Soviet Union. The choice of the site for the international review is not accidental, as Latvia has 25 animal farms, and in the production of cages for animals it is

leading other Soviet republics. Nearly one-third of the fur produced here is exported, with Latvian furs being invariably given prominent prizes at fur auctions.

Specialists noted that the exhibition displayed the most modern and up-to-date equipment. This international exhibition has played its part in the promotion and progress of scientific and technical exchanges and helped strengthen economic links between the Soviet Union and firms in other countries.

Oleg PUMPA

AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD EQUIPMENT FROM AUSTRIA

We are very content with the way this symposium proceeded, he said. We believe that our aim — to acquaint Soviet specialists with the achievements of medium-size and small Austrian firms, has been achieved. This is also proved by the composition of Soviet participants in the symposium, including representatives from all interested industries, science and technology, and the businesslike and creative activity of the audience when discussing reports. One can stress the great interest in such reports as "Prolonged Storage of Fruits and Vegetables", "Production of Complexed for Processing Foodstuffs" and many others.

Yuri VASILYEV

The Moscow office of the Finnish-Soviet Chamber of Commerce held a symposium on the manufacture and operation of mining equipment and machines. This is the fourth symposium on this subject held in this country. Taking part in the symposium were specialists from five Finnish firms who manufacture this sort of equipment. Most of them have commercial links with partners in the Soviet Union. The firm of Altran Oy, for instance, has been

The flag is raised

The Soviet flag has been raised on the dredge pump "Apheron" which has been through running tests at the Dutch shipyard of the IHC-Holland shipbuilding company where it was made.

This is the last in a series of ships which the company built this year filling orders from the Soviet Union. Three other vessels of this type — "The Crimea", "The Tatyana" and "The Dikaa" — designed for dredging the bottom and the hydraulic lifting of soil for building sites and for other types of work. The ships are already operating on the Soviet Union's internal waterways. At the handing over ceremony, the management of IHC-Holland praised the many years of cooperation with Soviet foreign trade associations.

PARTNERS MEET

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OIL AND GAS FOR VIETNAM

Preparatory work has been completed for launching the first stationary platform at the joint Soviet-Vietnamese enterprise for oil and gas exploration and operation on the shelf of Southern Vietnam. It will shortly be tugged on floating pontoons and positioned in the waters of the Eastern Sea a few dozen kilometres from the shore.

The coastal city of Vung Tau is changing its appearance. Soviet and Vietnamese builders have set up the first oil and gas industry centre in the republic. In order to do this, Vietnam received help from hundreds of Soviet oilmen and geologists who are highly experienced in the development of oil resources in Azerbaijan, Tataria, Central Asia and Western Siberia.

At the first stage of our association's activity, the main burden of work was conducted by builders and assemblymen, said Nguyen Dinh Vu, Deputy Director-General. In two years all the conditions were created for assembling giant offshore platforms. The drilling rigs will be fixed to them. At the same time personnel for the offshore oil fields is being trained. Soviet and Vietnamese experts are working together solving complicated engineering and technical problems.

"White Tiger" is the name given to one of the deposits on the shelf. It will be no easy task to bring it to the surface, but the many thousands of workers who will be assigned to the project should be able to cope with it.

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GAMBRO EXPANDS BUSINESS

A short while ago, Gambro signed an agreement with Med export for servicing medical technology supplied to the USSR. Our correspondent was told by Christer Nerme, director for trade of this Swedish firm.

Gambro appeared on the Soviet market six years ago. In order to set up contacts with Soviet organizations it arranged a series of symposiums on medical technology for specialists from the USSR Public Health Ministry, the Ministry of Medical Industry, and Soviet research institutes. Several instruments were handed over to the USSR for testing. After this, the firm took an active part in exhibitions held in the Soviet Union.

Since 1980, the firm's interests in the Soviet market have been represented by the imported firm at the Soviet-Soviet association.

Gambro supplies this country with equipment for the kidney treatment and systems for heart operations. Under a licensing agreement, this country purchased from the firm equipment and know-how for the production of disposable artificial kidneys out of Soviet materials.

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Intourist news

USSR-POLAND: COOPERATION ISSUES DISCUSSED

The records we have reached will contribute to the line work our governments are engaged in to expand links between nations, stressed Piotr Abramov, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Tourism, after the signing of the final document of the talks with Chairman of the Polish Main Committee for Tourism Jan Ciawinski.

During the talks the sides compared notes on the travel exchange between our two countries during this year and outlined prospects for its development in the next two years. They also called for more cooperation between tourist organizations and exchange of specialists.

Our country will soon celebrate momentous jubilees: the 40th anniversary of the Polish popular army and the 40th anniversary of Poland's resurgence, Ciawinski stressed. These are events which are very much linked with the Soviet Union. Naturally there will be Soviet tourists in Poland for our celebrations, another example of the friendship uniting our peoples.

Viktor YEVKIN

WTO ASSEMBLY

Delhi was the city chosen for the venue of the 5th session of the World Tourism Organization General Assembly, with over 60 countries taking part, including the Soviet Union. The organization was set up in 1975 and today it involves 105 countries, as well as numerous tourist and transport organizations.